

Checklist of the Decapods (Crustacea) from the outer continental shelf and seamounts from Northeast of Brazil **— REVIZEE Program (NE III)**

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Abstract

This study presents a list of 142 species collected on the outer continental shelf and seamounts from northeast Brazil at 24 oceanographic stations in May, 1998. References are provided from which all the present taxa identifications are based on.

Key words: checklist, Decapoda, Northeast of Brazil, REVIZEE Program

Introduction

The Brazilian northeastern continental shelf is characterized by low depth (lesser than 60m), small input of continental drained material, coarse calcareous bottoms and predominance of warm waters (Kempf 1970; Summerhayes *et al.* 1975; Castro & Miranda 1998).

The study of marine decapod crustaceans in the northeast continental shelf of Brazil started in the 19th century with the collections of C. F. Hart (Smith 1869) in 1867 and the expeditions of “Challenger” between 1873 and 1876, and “Branner-Agassiz” in 1899 (Miers 1886; Bate 1888; Henderson 1888; Rathbun 1900). In the 20th century, the Oceanographic Ship “Calypso” carried out a set of samples between 1961 and 1962 (Crosnier & Forest 1966; Christoffersen 1979; Forest & de Saint-Laurent 1967; Haig 1966; Rodrigues da Costa 1968). Collections by the ships “Canopus” and “Akaroa”, between 1967 and 1969, and the “Almirante Saldanha” (Marinha do Brasil – DHN), with the commissions Norte/Nordeste I (1967), Norte/Nordeste II (1968), Geomar I (1969), Geomar II (1970), Geomar III (1971), Norte/Nordeste III (1986) and PAVASAS I (1987), were the basis for studies of Coelho and Koenig (1972), Coelho and Ramos (1972), Coelho *et al.* (1980), Calado (1990), Barreto *et al.* (1991) and Barreto and Coelho (1994).

Despite the fact that seamounts are numerous, there are few studies dealing with crustaceans at these environments due to the difficulty of sampling in these areas (Roger, 1994). At the Northeast Region there are the seamounts of Fernando de Noronha Chain (3°